Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., October 24, 1890.

Farm Notes.

Keep the onions in a cool place, and spread them out. Never pile them up in heaps.

If there is anything that needs a thorough cleaning occasionally it is the water trough.

Have your bee-hives stored away, and see that the bees go into winter quarters well provided with honey.

Skim milk is worth nearly as much for feeding to pigs and poultry as the whole milk, but it should be given fresh, and not in the shape of swill.

Better stop the cultivation of berry and currant bushes now and let the wood harden before winter. The same is true of fruit trees and grape vines.

In France a practical knowledge of gardening is given in the primary shools. In this country the gardens of many large farmers are small and poor.

For mutton the Southdown in one of the favorites. The quality of its meat is not excelled, and as a hardy breed, that is well adapted for nearly all farms, it holds a high place.

The Gironde (France) Council General has sent a resolution to the Government demanding the early repeal of the law prohibiting the importation of American salted pork.

Professor Baily says: "It may not be generally known that the chokeberry can be used as a stock for dwarfing apples. I have fruited the crab Montreal beauty on it and have worked other apples on it successfully."

Agriculture is the leading interest in this country. Seven or eight million farmers are engaged in it. The value of the products of their industry every year reaches the vast total of between $3,000,000,000 and $4,000,000,000.

Mulching raspberries is a very good practice where it is practicable. The mulch must be put on thickly enough to keep down weeds, or it will be more trouble than it is worth, and will prevent cultivation and increase the hard labor.

When feed is high it will not pay to give it to animals that do not return an amount in beef, milk or butter equal to the cost of food and labor. The only profit will then be the manure, which is a very important item. Get rid of the unproductive stock.

One of the best fertilizers for wheat that has been put in this fall for next year's crop is finely ground bone. In the spring the use of nitrate of soda will then be found excellent. Superphosphate or bone meal shows good results on wheat always.

Begin the work of stopping up the cracks of the barn and out-houses. The wind and fine snow will find all those that you overlook, and on cold days more food will be required, because more cold gets in.

Fences depend on the objects in view. A plain fence with no barbs may keep horses, cows and hogs confined, but to prevent the bull from getting out there is nothing like barbed wire and plenty of it.

The number of sheep in this country in 1884 was 50,626,626 head; last year, 42,999,079. In 1884 the product of wool was 300,000,000 pounds; now decreased to 265,000,000. In New England alone sheep enough should be kept to more than make up the difference.

Honey is one of nature's purest sweets, valuable both as food and medicine. It has always been esteemed a luxury—the food of Kings. Eaten in small quantities with other food it is very nourishing, and favors the cure of pulmonary diseases and colds.

Husk your corn and get it under cover as soon as you can do so. Every storm does more or less damage. It will also pay to put the fodder under shelter. The loss of fodder that stands in the fields every winter is a large one if the amount is calculated for the entire country.

Just as soon as the frost kills the grass and weeds and they become dry, burn the ground over that is occupied by them. By this method the ground will be made clean, and many seeds will be destroyed. The strawberry bed is improved by being burned over after the ground freezes.

The wethers should be separated from the ewes and placed where they can be fatted for market. Ewes and weathers should not be fed together, as they require different food. Give the extra room and shelter to the sheep as soon as the stormy weather begins or there will be a loss from colds and distemper.

No animal should be guarded more carefully than the cow. She daily provides milk as an article of food, and should she be attacked by disease, or suffer ailment of any kind, the whole family may incur danger. It is more important to look after the health of the cow than to the health of the horse.

A change from grass to dry food means a change in the quantity of milk, unless the food is varied and some succulent food, such as ensilage or roots, be allowed in addition to hay and grain. Some cows fall off in milk when put on dry food and do not regain in yield until the next spring. Regulating the milk supply by regulating the food and its quality is something that requires judgment.

Nearly all stables are made with ventilators, or have some kind of arrangement for ventilating. The matter of how to ventilate without allowing the warmth to escape, and to avoid colds from draughts of air, demands attention. Many animals contract disease in winter by being exposed to draughts from ventilators when the wind blows from certain directions. It is safe to claim that more victims have resulted from too much fresh air in winter than from too little.

Playing a Racket.

Among the personal effects of a young man arrested for drunkenness the other day was a bank check for $3000. It was plain enough to the officer that the paper was N. G., and when the young man sobered up he was accused of being in a confidence racket.

"Oh, come now," he replied, "I am straight and all right. That was a little racket on my own account."

"How?"

"Why, I'm going with a girl who loves me for myself alone, but her mother looks at the cash side of the question.'

"And you filled out this check to deceive her?" "That's what I did. I showed her that I had $3,000 in the bank, but what did she do but post right down there to find out that I did not have a hairpin on deposit."

"And what?"

"Why, that's how I came to get drunk. She showed me the door and I found the gate myself. I knew from the way she whistled for the dog that the syndicate was busted, and I went to ruin at the nearest saloon."

WOMAN'S SMILES AND WOMAN'S TEARS.—One to enliven, the other to soften the heart of mankind. An old bachelor once said women were either "all smiles or all tears," but this cannot be true, for what would there be "twixt a tear and a smile." Women have enough to bear to make them "all tears" and enough to hope for to make them "all smiles." When afflicted with nervousness, "female weakness," sick headache, and the numerous diseases peculiar to their sex their is necessity for contemplation, and for "tears," but when they consider that there is a sure remedy in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription for all such "female complaints," there is reason for "smlies."

History of the Potato.

There never was a time in the history of America, since it was inhabited by white people, when the potato was not cultivated, as it was introduced into Virginia before it was cultivated in Ireland, and it was in cultivation there in 1584, when Sir Walter Raleigh supplied the seed to farmers on his estate in that island. To call it the Irish potato therefore is a misnomer. It was brought to North America from Chili and Peru by the Spaniards, and was first cultivated in Europe by these people. The Jerusalem artichoke was not in use before the potato, as it was introduced into Europe from South America only in 1672, but it was probably used in Brazil as a substitute for the potato long before that time. No other known tuber was used for the same purpose as the potato before the introduction into Europe, so far as is known, and probably there was none. Oatmeal, peas and barley were used in various ways for food before the potato was known in Europe.—*New York Times.*

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